

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE AN ASFA PARTNER? (Responsibilities & Entitlements)

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### INTRODUCTION

To put it simply or in the words of one of the staff from one of the institutes participating in the **Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts (ASFA)** International Cooperative Information System:

*ASFA is a classic case of GIVE AND TAKE. The participating ASFA Partner institutes give of their time, expertise, information, and some of their heart, in the preparation of bibliographic references for inclusion in the ASFA database. In return, the ASFA Partners receive complimentary access to the ASFA database, and a little love.*

Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts (ASFA) is the name of an abstracting and indexing system or service covering the world's literature on the science, technology, management, and conservation of marine, brackish water, and freshwater resources and environments, including their socio-economic and legal aspects.

The principle product of the ASFA system is a computer searchable **ASFA bibliographic database**, which is highly praised worldwide.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) was one of the founding fathers and the lead agency in establishing ASFA in 1970-1971. FAO currently acts as the ASFA Secretariat (i.e. recruits and trains new Partners, coordinates the input, maintains the system tools and prepares input to the database).

Behind the production of the ASFA database is the many-faceted *ASFA International, Cooperative Information System*. The base of ASFA is the *international* network of participating institutes and organizations (i.e. the **ASFA Partners**). The ASFA Partners *cooperate* (usually through their libraries) in the task of monitoring the world's aquatic science literature and in preparing bibliographic references to this literature for inclusion in the database. The monitoring of the world's aquatic science literature by any one single institute or organization would not be comprehensive or economically feasible; hence *cooperation* is the key factor in the functioning and success of the ASFA system. The rest of this paper describes certain aspects of the ASFA system in more detail.

## SUBJECT SCOPE OF ASFA

Before listing the subject areas within (and outside) the scope of the ASFA system, it is necessary to clarify some misunderstanding regarding the subject scope of ASFA caused by the name ASFA itself that is: *Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts*.

It seems that the term “Aquatic Sciences” and the term “Fisheries” has led some people to think that the ASFA database contains ONLY references to the literature dealing with freshwater and fisheries or fish – THIS IS NOT TRUE.

**The subject scope of ASFA includes ALL aspects of the aquatic environment such as:**

- FISHERIES	- NON-LIVING RESOURCES
- AQUACULTURE	- OCEANOGRAPHY
- POLLUTION	- CONSERVATION
- BIOLOGY	- MANAGEMENT
- BIOTECHNOLOGY	

Notwithstanding what is stated above, there are a few topics excluded from the scope of ASFA, because they are treated more comprehensively in other dedicated systems. The following list of topics is excluded (but not always) from ASFA.

- ground water	- weather modification
- water or sewage treatment	- public water supply
- terrestrial geology	- hydraulics
- theoretical studies of ship design*	- naval engineering*
- water as a resource industry or agriculture	- offensive warfare

\*(coverage of ships and shipbuilding is limited to research vessels and fishing vessels)

**Note:** it should be realized that documents falling under the above list of "excluded" topics may (depending on their context in the document) sometimes still be relevant to ASFA, and therefore included in ASFA.

The complete subject scope of ASFA (over 240 subject categories) is listed in the publication *ASFIS-2, Subject Categories and Scope Descriptions (Rev.2)*. These subject categories collectively define the subject scope of ASFA, and they are also used in indexing, as ASFA indexers must allocate each ASFA record to one or more of the subject categories. The publication can be downloaded at [ftp://ftp.fao.org/FI/asfa/Subject\\_categories/](ftp://ftp.fao.org/FI/asfa/Subject_categories/)

## ASFA BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATABASE

The ASFA Bibliographic Database is published in various formats by ProQuest: three printed (monthly) abstracts journals, online Internet access, and CD-DVD-ROM. The ASFA database is distributed to the ASFA Partners by ProQuest as an entitlement and to the public on subscription (<http://www.csa.com>).

The ASFA bibliographic database contains more than 1 million references, accessioned since 1971 (some references are now prior to 1971). About 4000 new bibliographic references are added each month to the database. Each bibliographic reference includes: the title of the document in its original language (all non-English titles are also translated into English), an English and/or non-English language abstract, and subject, taxonomic and geographic index entries as relevant. Increasingly, the references provide links to the full text.

### **THE NETWORK OF ASFA PARTNERS**

The network of ASFA Partners submits their bibliographic references in computer readable format to the ASFA publisher, ProQuest. The Publisher processes the input, and merges it to create a Master File (i.e. the ASFA database). From the Master File, the ASFA information products and services are produced (Internet access, 3 printed abstracts journals, and CD-DVD ROM). These products are distributed back to the ASFA Partners for use in their respective information systems.

*The network of ASFA Partners currently includes:*

#### **Four UN Co-Sponsoring ASFA Partners**

1. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Italy
2. Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), France
3. United Nations Secretariat, Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of The Sea (UN/DOALOS), USA
4. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Kenya

#### **Eleven International ASFA Partners**

5. Scientific Cooperation to Support Responsible Fisheries in the Adriatic Sea (ADRIAMED), Italy
6. International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), Spain
7. International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), Denmark
8. The World Fish Center, Malaysia
9. The World Conservation Union (IUCN), Switzerland
10. Network of Aquaculture Centers in Asia-Pacific (NACA), Thailand
11. Pacific Islands Marine Resources Information System (PIMRIS), Fiji
12. Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), Seychelles
13. Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO), Canada
14. Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), New Caledonia
15. Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), Federated States of Micronesia

#### **Forty-eight National ASFA Partners**

16. Argentina - Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Desarrollo Pesquero (INIDEP)
17. Australia - CSIRO Marine Research
18. Belgium- VLIZ Vlaams Instituut voor de Zee vzw, Flanders Marine Institute
19. Brazil - Universidade de São Paulo, Instituto Oceanografico (IO/USP)
20. Canada - Fisheries and Oceans Canada
21. Chile - Instituto de Fomento Pesquero (IFOP)
22. China, People's Republic - National Marine Data and Information Service (NMDIS)
23. Côte d'Ivoire - Centre de Recherches Oceanologiques (CRO)
24. Cuba - Centro de Investigaciones Pesqueras (CIP), Ministerio de la Industria Pesquera(MIP)
25. Ecuador - Instituto Nacional de Pesca
26. Egypt - National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries (NIOF)
27. Estonia - Estonian Marine Institute (MEI)
28. France - Institut Français de Recherche pour l'Exploitation de la Mer (IFREMER)
29. Germany - Johann Heinrich von Thünen-Institut (vTI)Bundesforschungsinstitut für Ländliche Räume, Wald und Fischerei Fachinformationszentrum Fischereiund Nationales
30. Ghana - Water Research Institute (WRI)
31. Greece - National Centre for Marine Research (NCMR)
32. Guinea - Centre National des Sciences Halieutiques de Boussoura (CNSHB)
33. Iceland - Marine Research Institute (MRI)
34. India - National Institute of Oceanography (NIO)
35. Iran - Iranian Fisheries Research Organization (IFRO)
36. Indonesia - Indonesian Institute of Sciences (PDII-LIPI)
37. Italy - Società Italiana di Biologia Marina S.I.B.M. ONLUS
38. Japan - Fisheries Research Agency (FRA)
39. Kenya - Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI)
40. Korea - Korea Ocean Research and Development Institute (KORDI)
41. Lao - Living Aquatic Resources Research Center (LARReC)
42. Mauritania - Institut Mauritanien de Recherches Océanographiques et des Pêches(IMROP)
43. Mexico - Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM)
44. Morocco - Institut National de Recherche Halieutique (INRH)
45. Mozambique - INAHINA - Instituto Nacional de Hidrografia e Navegação
46. Nigeria - National Institute for Freshwater Fisheries Research (NIFFR)
47. Norway - Institute of Marine Research (IMR)
48. Peru - Instituto del Mar del Perú (IMARPE)
49. Portugal -Ministério da Agricultura, Desenvolvimento Rural e Pescas, Instituto Nacional de Investigação Agrária e das Pescas (INIAP)
50. Instituto de Investigação das Pesca e do Mar (IPIMAR)
51. Poland - Sea Fisheries Research Institute (SFI)

52. Russia - Russian Federal Research Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography (VNIRO)
53. Senegal - Direction des Pêches Maritimes
54. Spain - Instituto Español de Oceanografía (IEO)
55. Sweden - National Board of Fisheries, Institute of Marine Research (IMR)
56. Tanzania - Institute of Marine Science (IMS)
57. Thailand - Phuket Marine Biological Center
58. Tunisia - Institut National des Sciences et Technologies de la Mer (INSTM)
59. Uganda - National Fisheries Resources Research Institute (NaFIRRI)
60. Ukraine - Southern Scientific Research Institute of Marine Fisheries and Oceanography (YugNIRO)
61. United Kingdom - Marine Biological Association of the UK (MBA)
62. Uruguay - Universidad de la Republica, Fac. Vet., Instituto de Investigaciones Pesqueras
63. USA - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Library and Information Services Division
64. Vietnam - Ministry of Fisheries, Fisheries Information Centre (FICen)

#### **One Publishing ASFA Partner**

65. USA - ProQuest

For the full names and addresses of all the ASFA Partners, including the Collaborating ASFA Centers\* (see : <http://www.fao.org/fi/asfa/partners.asp> )

*\*Collaborating ASFA Centers* are those institutes that the *official* National ASFA Partners have recruited and trained to assist them in preparing ASFA input. Unlike the *official* ASFA Partners, the *Collaborating ASFA Centers* have not signed a Partnership Agreement with FAO. The ASFA responsibilities of the Collaborating ASFA Centers are therefore defined/agreed between the ASFA National Partner and the Collaborating Center, and not by FAO. The National ASFA Partners may, take the initiative, responsibility and expense, to recruit/train as many Collaborating ASFA Centers as needed to assist them in ASFA input preparation for their country. The ASFA Partner is authorized to give some or all of its ASFA information product entitlements to its Collaborating ASFA Centre(s) to be used with the same restrictions that apply to the National ASFA Partner.

#### **ASFA Partners by Region**

- **Africa** - 15 ASFA Partners (13 National Partners, 1 International Partner, 1 UN Partner)
- **Latin America** - 7 ASFA Partners (7 National Partners)
- **Caribbean** - 1 ASFA Partner (1 National Partner)

- **North America** - 5 ASFA Partners (2 National Partners, 1 International Partner, 1 UN Partner, 1 ASFA Publishing Partner)
- **Asia** - 11 ASFA Partners (9 National Partners, 2 International Partners)
- **Europe** - 21 ASFA Partners (15 National Partners, 4 International Partners, 2 UN Partners)
- **Oceania** - 4 ASFA Partners (1 National Partner, 3 International Partners)

### **THE ASFA PUBLISHER (PROQUEST)**

ProQuest is both the Publisher of ASFA and an ASFA Partner.

As the Publisher, ProQuest merges the collective input (bibliographic references) submitted by the network of ASFA Partners and merges it together with its own input to create the ASFA bibliographic database. ProQuest produces and makes commercially available to the general public the ASFA database in the following formats and media:

- **Internet Access**
- **ASFA Printed Journals** - There are three printed journals in the ASFA series:
  1. *ASFA-1, Biological Sciences and Living Resources* (monthly)
  2. *ASFA-2, Ocean Technology, Policy and Non-Living Resources* (monthly)
  3. *ASFA-3, Aquatic Pollution and Environmental Quality* (bi-monthly)
- **CD-ROMs and DVD – (1971 to Present)** Not marketed to public at present. The database in this format is provided to the ASFA Partner institutes and to institutes not participating in ASFA in Low Income Food Deficit Countries which cannot afford the regular subscription price)

As an ASFA Partner, ProQuest, like all the other ASFA Partners, processes and submits input (records) for inclusion in the ASFA Bibliographic Database. ProQuest prepares more than half of all the input submitted to the ASFA Database (with most of it pertaining to the journal literature)

Over the last 5 years (2003-2007), the average yearly number of records prepared by ProQuest was about 30 000 records. While, the collective input of the ASFA Partners totaled about 15 000 records per year

### **TWO LEGAL AGREEMENTS REGULATING THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND ENTITLEMENTS OF ASFA PARTNERS**

The two Agreements are:

- 1) the *ASFA Publishing Agreement* (the official title is: *Publishing Agreement between Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and ProQuest* [ProQuest is the ASFA Publisher], and

- 2) the *ASFA Partnership Agreement* (the official title is: *Partnership Agreement Providing for Cooperation in the Preparation and Publication of the Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts (ASFA) and the Reconstitution of the Advisory Board*)

### **ASFA Publishing Agreement**

It is a signed Agreement (legal document) only between FAO and the ASFA Publisher and it is reviewed/renewed every four years.

The *Publishing Agreement* defines:

- the "responsibilities" and "entitlements" of the ASFA Publisher as regards the processing, production and publishing of the ASFA database,
- the "royalties" that ProQuest pays into the ASFA Trust Fund,
- the number of "free", "entitlement" copies of the ASFA information products (e.g. ASFA CD/DVD-ROM, printed ASFA journals, Internet access) which the ASFA Partners receive from ProQuest.
- the conditions under which the ASFA Partners may use the above mentioned "entitlement" products in providing information services to their users.

And finally, the *Publishing Agreement* is referred to in "Article VI" of the *ASFA Partnership Agreement* which all ASFA Partners signed when joining ASFA (e.g. *Each Partner shall be entitled to receive such copies of the ASFA service as may be specified in Article 5 of the Publishing Agreement between FAO and ProQuest in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in that agreement*). Article V of the ASFA Publishing Agreement is visible on the FAO ASFA Homepage at:

<ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/006/ad644e/ad644e00.pdf>

### **The ASFA Partnership Agreement**

It is a signed agreement between FAO and each of the ASFA Partner Institutes. The National, International, and UN-cooperating institutes/organizations, including the ASFA Publisher, were required to sign the ASFA Partnership Agreement to become an ASFA Partner. The Agreement explains the rights and responsibilities of the ASFA Partners. The text of the current ASFA Partnership Agreement was drafted in 1995, and it has remained the same since. Modification/additions or re-interpretation of points in the Agreement are usually made through discussion and "agreement" at ASFA Board Meetings and are recorded as such in the ASFA Advisory Board Meeting Report. Major amendments to the Agreement can be made by majority vote of all ASFA Partners. The text of the ASFA Partnership Agreement is visible on the FAO ASFA Homepage at:

<ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/006/ad644e/ad644e00.pdf>

The MAIN Responsibilities of ASFA Partners deal with MONITORING and INPUT Preparation as follows:

- **To identify a list of serial publications** (usually those published within its own country) **for which it will be responsible for monitoring and preparing bibliographic input**. (Partners are also responsible for the monographs published in their countries)

- **To prepare bibliographic references in accordance with the editorial rules** set out in the ASFIS Reference Series Publications and using the ASFA software.

***Article V Responsibilities of National ASFA Partners*** (Excerpt from ASFA Partnership Agreement)

- ... ASFA Partners shall be responsible for the monitoring of serials, monographs and other information relevant to the scope of ASFA, published in their own countries, and for preparing bibliographic citations, indexing and abstracts of relevant literature for input to ASFA.
- Each National ASFA Partner agrees to do its utmost to ensure the highest quality in its monitoring of information and preparation of input to ASFA ... in accordance with such instructions and guidelines ... promulgated in the ASFIS Reference Series, and ... to cooperate with the Secretariat, the Publishing Partner and other Partners in the development of ASFA tools and quality control.
- Each National ASFA Partner agrees to be represented, to the extent practicable, at all meetings of the Board and ... with a view to making recommendations to the Board.
- Each National ASFA Partner shall allocate, on a continuing basis, the necessary resources to enable it to fulfill its responsibilities under this Article.
- Where any National ASFA Partner fails to fulfill its responsibilities under this Article for a period of two consecutive years, the Board may decide to suspend that Partner's entitlements under Article VI of this Agreement.

The following section-7 describes the ASFA Partners "Monitoring" responsibility in more detail.

**POLICY REGARDING COVERAGE/MONITORING OF  
LITERATURE FOR ASFA**

Regarding the number of Serials monitored for ASFA, the table below shows the number of serials currently monitored by each Partner.

<b>ADRIAMED</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>Ghana</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Lao</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Sweden</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Argentina</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Greece</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Mauritania</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Tanzania</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Australia</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>Guinea</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Mexico</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>Thailand</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>ICCAT</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Morocco</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Tunisia</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Brazil</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Iceland</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Mozambique</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Uganda</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Canada</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>ICES</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>NACA</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>UK</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>Chile</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Worldfish</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>NAFO</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Ukraine</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>China</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>India</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>Nigeria</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>UNDoalos</b>	<b>26</b>



<b>Cote d'Ivoire</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Indonesia</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Norway</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>UNEP</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Cuba</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>IOC</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Peru</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Uruguay</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Ecuador</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>IOTC</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>PIMRIS</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>USA</b>	<b>370</b>
<b>Egypt</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Iran</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Poland</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Vietnam</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>Italy</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>Portugal</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>WCPFC</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>FAO</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>IUCN</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Russia</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>ProQuest</b>	<b>3300</b>
<b>France</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>Japan</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>Senegal</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>SPC</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Germany</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>Kenya</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>Korea</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>Spain</b>	<b>15</b>

**Note:** all ASFA Partners are also responsible for monitoring the non-serial literature published in their own countries and/or organizations, especially the grey literature.

#### **Policy regarding Geographic Coverage**

The goal of worldwide geographic coverage is reflected in the preamble to the ASFA Partnership Agreement:

*“the publication Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts (ASFA) was originally established in 1970 by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), with the co-operation of a commercial publisher and several national centers in order to provide an information system facilitating access to world literature on aquatic sciences and fisheries”*

In the *ASFA Partnership Agreement*, it is stated that the ASFA Partners are responsible for covering the literature published in their own countries.

#### **Policy regarding Language Coverage**

Documents, published in any language, may be processed as input to the ASFA bibliographic database. However, the carrier language of the ASFA Database is English; therefore all of the information in the records must be in English except for the original language title and the abstract.

#### **Policy regarding Time Span of Coverage**

The time span of the ASFA Database is 1971- to date (*as the first issue of the ASFA abstracts journal was published in July 1971*). However, New ASFA Partners usually begin their preparation of bibliographic input to the ASFA database starting from the last published issue of the serials that they have identified and agreed to monitor as their contribution to ASFA. In other words, new ASFA Partners are not required to prepare input for serial titles on their monitoring list with a date of publication prior to the date of their becoming an ASFA Partner. However, this is not a fixed rule. Some Records on the ASFA Database are Prior to 1971, because of Special ASFA Projects to INPUT Historical Materials (or to fill gaps).

Below is a list of some of these projects:

550 records dealing with Latvian and Lithuanian aquatic literature 1966-1983 (Estonia ASFA Partner, Estonian Marine Institute)
6000 records originating from international/regional projects in marine and freshwaters hosted at/carried out by the Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (Kenya ASFA Partner, Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute)
4000 records corresponding to some gaps discovered in the ASFA database (Kenya ASFA Partner, Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute)
500 records from the area of the South Pacific. PIMRIS ASFA Partner - 1400 records dealing with old literature (1790-1970) on the Caspian Sea (Russia ASFA Partner, Russian Federal Research Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography (VNIRO))
310 records dealing with Barents and Norwegian Seas for the period 1938-1971 (Russia ASFA Partner (Russian Federal Research Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography (VNIRO))
600 records corresponding to period before Nigeria joined of ASFA (prior to 2004). (Nigeria ASFA Partner, National Institute for Freshwater Fisheries Research (NIFFR))
10,000 records dealing the North Sea (mainly the Southern Bight of North Sea) between the years 2000 and 1830, but mainly between 1945-2000. (Belgium ASFA Partner, VLIZ, Flanders Marine Institute)

#### **Policy regarding Coverage of Document Types**

ASFA Partners are mandated to monitor all literature published in their countries: journal articles, books, chapters in books (when separately authored), conference proceedings, reports, thesis etc. ASFA Partners are especially encouraged to monitor the grey literature, as this is one of the unique characteristics of the ASFA database which distinguish it and will hopefully insure its continued success.

#### **Policy regarding Media Coverage**

All publications, in whatever media or format they are issued, may be processed as input to the ASFA database. The ASFA data input worksheet contains a field where the Physical Medium of the publication can be reported (e.g. Printed matter, CD-ROM, Internet, Diskette, Film, Tape, etc.). Also there are fields for the URL address of the full-text and the E-mail address of the author.

#### **Policy regarding Links from records to full-text**

The goal of ASFA is to have as many records as possible in the database containing links to the full-text document – and many citations already do this. ASFA Partners are particularly encouraged to digitize the grey literature and submit it to a document repository (Aquatic Commons and/or OceanDoc). To this end, scanners have been supplied to ASFA Partners, and ASFA Trust Fund money has been and is being set aside to identify and scan documents.

## ENTITLEMENTS OF BEING AN ASFA PARTNER

Besides “responsibilities”, being an ASFA Partner also includes benefits or “entitlements”. One benefit of being an ASFA Partner is to be able to say that you are participant in an *international cooperative* initiative, which is no small claim in today’s world of exaggerated individualism, competition and nationalism.

**Article 5 Products Entitlement for ASFA Partners** (Excerpt from ASFA Publishing Agreement)

**5.1 Minimum Entitlement.** ProQuest shall supply at no cost to all present ASFA Partners (and future ASFA Partners...) contributing indexed records..., the following minimum entitlement which shall not be for resale:

- **one full subscription to each of the 3 printed ASFA journals** as long as the Partner is a member of ASFA and contributes input.
- **one copy of the stand alone ASFA CD/DVD-ROM**, and all updates and upgrades thereto, for as long as the Partner is a member of ASFA and contributes input.
- **one copy of updates/upgrades to ASFA database on magnetic tape** (or equivalent machine readable format) to Partners set forth in Exhibit E.
- **one ASFA online subscription** (currently via the ProQuest platform; [www.csa.com](http://www.csa.com)) for multiple simultaneous accesses by the Partner organization/institution.

This Internet subscription will continue to include access to Oceanic Abstracts, Natural Sciences Web Resources, and Recent References Related to your Search). In addition, the Internet subscription may also include access to both *CSA Illustrata – Natural Sciences (CINS)* and *Water Resources Abstracts (WRA)* according to the following circumstances:

- ProQuest will provide (on request by and in consultation with FAO) complimentary access to both *CSA Illustrata - Natural Sciences (CINS)* and *Water Resources Abstracts (WRA)* for ASFA Partners from countries designated as Least Developed or LIFDC according under UN listings (<http://www.un.org/specialrep/ohrlls/ldc/list.htm>) or any other institute from countries designated as Least Developed or LIFDC.
- ProQuest will provide a significant discount (75%) or even complimentary access to both CINS and WRA for ASFA Partners from developing countries (on request by and in consultation with FAO).
- ProQuest will offer a discount to either database for Partners from developed countries (e.g. 25% discount

## SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The **ASFA database** is based upon a many faceted **international cooperative information system**. At the center of the system is the **Network of ASFA Partners** (the institutes or organizations who have agreed to participate in ASFA). Then, there are the **source documents** (serials, monographs, reports, conference proceedings, thesis, etc) which are **monitored** by the ASFA Partners. The bibliographic references to the source documents are prepared by the ASFA

Partners and sent to the **ASFA Publisher**, who merges the collective input to create the **ASFA bibliographic database** in various formats and media, e.g. internet access, printed abstracts journals, and CD-DVD ROM. The full ASFA database is distributed back to the ASFA Partners for use in their local information systems. The database is also made available commercially to the general public. At the working base of the system, providing the legal instruments and the rules and procedures for data input are the two legal agreements (the **Publishing** and the **Partnership Agreements**) and the system's tools (the guidelines, authority lists etc.). The ASFA Database is considered by many users worldwide as one of the premier sources of bibliographic references to the Aquatic Science literature.

For further information, see the ASFA Home page (<http://www.fao.org/fi/asfa/asfa.asp> )